

1	2
C.C.L.	29,187.260
N.C.L.	1,656.000
W.C.L.	2,870.000
S.E.C.L.	NIL
M.C.L.	12,745.939
Total CIL	46,523.639

(b) Delay in getting possession of land is due to title disputes, dispute amongst land owners, refusal of land owners to accept compensation, payment and hand over possession of the land demanding higher compensation, employment etc.

(c) No cash compensation for such lands as shown in reply to part (a) except for 64.44 hectares of land in respect of BCCL has been paid. Nor any employment in respect of such lands has so far been offered.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Exporation of Gas

3215. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Amoco Corporation was given permission for exploration of methane gas in Bihar and West Bengal;

(b) if so, when the permission was given and the terms and conditions of permission;

(c) whether the Amoco Corporation has since withdrawn the project; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b). Approval of the Government was accorded to M/s. Amoco India Petroleum Company (Amoco) for exploration of Coal Bed Methane gas in two blocks located in Bihar in September, 1994. The terms of approval were inter-alia as under :-

(i) M/s. Amoco will have to enter into memorandum of Understanding with Coal India Limited (CIL), setting out terms and conditions including arbitration procedures for damages to coal mines.

(ii) Commercial arrangement to be entered into between CIL and Amoco should provide for-

- Payment of statutory levies and taxes to the Government by Amoco as per prevailing laws.
- Payment of a fixed amount of Rs.1.63 crores as "Signature Bonus" to CIL by M/s. Amoco.

payment of royalty @12.5% of the Well Head sale value of methane Gas by M/s. Amoco. Of this, 10% will be payable as royalty to the State Government and 2.5% to CIL as Production Bonus.

(iii) There will be no financial liabilities on CIL. However, at a later date CIL may show their willingness in its development as a joint venture with Indian and foreign company.

(iv) Amoco will undertake their own marketing and distribution of gas without any interference from the Ministry or CIL subject to the prevailing laws of India.

(v) Import of equipment for exploration and extraction of Coal Bed Methane will be considered as a concessional duty at the same rate applicable to oil companies coming to India.

(vi) The approval is valid for a period of two years from the date of issue.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The company has since withdrawn the project on the ground that this project has not kept pace with their other CBM projects in the world.

#### Salt Cess

3216. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total salt cess collected by his Ministry from various salt-producing States during each of the last three years; and

(b) the manner in which this cess is spent for the welfare of the salt workers and for providing infrastructure facilities to industry in each State during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Salt Cess collected from various salt producing States during each of the last three years is as under:

(Figures in lakh rupees)

State	93-94	94-95	95-96
Gujarat	183.46	180.13	196.37
Tamil Nadu & Andhra Pradesh	27.52	27.48	28.15
Rajasthan	7.85	13.37	14.66
Maharashtra	7.07	5.16	6.25
West Bengal & Orissa	1.10	1.35	0.91
Total	227.00	227.49	246.34

(b) A Portion of the cess collected from various salt producing States is spent for the welfare of the salt workers and for providing infrastructure facilities to